

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BELGRA 05695 040808Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 /084 W
-----091654 050207Z /64
R 031545Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7492

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 5695

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, YO
SUBJ: MARKOVIC-HARRIMAN MEETING

1. ON JULY 29 FEDERAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT MARKOVIC,
ACCOMPANIED BY SEVERAL ADVISERS, MET WITH GOVERNOR
HARRIMAN AND AMBASSADOR EAGLEBURGER AND THEN ENTERTAINED
THE HARRIMAN PARTY AT LUNCH.

2. GOVERNOR HARRIMAN BEGAN BY REMARKING THAT HE UNDERSTOOD
MARKOVIC HAD JUST COMPLETED A VISIT TO THE UNITED
STATES AND THAT HE HAD HEARD FROM ALL SIDES HOW SUCCESSFUL
THAT VISIT HAD BEEN AND HOW MUCH US CONGRESSMEN
HAD BEEN IMPRESSED BY MARKOVIC AND HIS DELEGATION.
MARKOVIC REPLIED THAT SO FAR AS HE WAS CONCERNED THE
VISIT HAD BEEN A TOTAL SUCCESS AND HAD HAD A MAJOR
IMPACT ON NOT ONLY HIS OWN BUT HIS COLLEAGUES ATTITUDES
TOWARD THE UNITED STATES. HE HAD BEEN PARTICULARLY
IMPRESSED BY THE WILLINGNESS OF THE AMERICANS
WITH WHOM HE MET TO DISCUSS DIFFERENCES IN AN OPEN,
FRANK AND HONEST MANNER; IT WAS THIS WILLINGNESS TO
DISCUSS AREAS IN WHICH WE DIFFERED THAT HAD IMPRESSED
HIM AS MUCH AS ANYTHING ON THE TRIP. HE WAS GLAD TO
REPORT TO GOVERNOR HARRIMAN THAT OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS
HAVE IMPROVED SUBSTANTIALLY SINCE THE ADVENT OF
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BELGRA 05695 040808Z

THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION, AND THAT THE TITO VISIT TO
WASHINGTON AND HIS OWN VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES HAD
CONTRIBUTED VERY MUCH TO THAT PROGRESS. MARKOVIC SAID
HE ALSO WANTED TO COMMEND PRESIDENT CARTER FOR SENDING
A MESSAGE TO THE NONALIGNED CONFERENCE. IT WAS
A WISE AND COURAGEOUS STEP AND, ONCE AGAIN, HE WAS
IMPRESSED BY THE PRESIDENT'S RECOGNITION IN THE

MESSAGE THAT THE UNITED STATES SOMETIMES HAD DIFFERENCES WITH THE NONALIGNED.

3. MARKOVIC SAID HE FRANKLY DID NOT UNDERSTAND ALL OF THE UNDERLYING REASONS BEHIND THE AMERICAN CAMPAIGN ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED THIS SUBJECT EXTENSIVELY WHILE IN THE UNITED STATES. HE SAID THAT NO COUNTRY IS FREE OF PROBLEMS IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS FIELD, ALTHOUGH SOME ARE BETTER OFF THAN OTHERS. CERTAINLY THE ISSUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IS A SERIOUS PROBLEM IN THE SOVIET UNION BUT IT IS NOT SIMPLY A PROBLEM OF FOUR OR FOURTEEN DISSIDENTS. RATHER, IT IS A PROBLEM FOR ALL THE MILLIONS OF RUSSIANS WHO HAVE LIMITATIONS IMPOSED ON THEM IN TERMS OF THEIR ABILITY TO MOVE BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY AND TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES FREELY. HAVING SAID THAT, HOWEVER, HE HAD SERIOUS DOUBTS THAT A CAMPAIGN WHICH "LOOKS LIKE IT IS INTERVENTION" CAN ACHIEVE A BETTER LIFE FOR THE SOVIET PEOPLE. HE WAS, HE SAID, NOT ASKING GOVERNOR HARRIMAN TO COMMENT ON THIS SUBJECT, BUT HE DID WANT TO RAISE HIS CONCERN AND WANTED THE GOVERNOR TO KNOW THAT HE HAD MADE THE SAME POINTS WHEN VISITING THE US.

4. THE REMAINDER OF THE CONVERSATION AND THE TALK AT THE LUNCH THEREAFTER WAS LARGELY DEVOTED TO FURTHER CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BELGRA 05695 040808Z

DISCUSSION OF MARKOVIC'S IMPRESSIONS OF THE US VISIT (WHICH WAS, JUDGING BY HIS COMMENTS, AN UNQUALIFIED SUCCESS). THE ONLY ADDITIONAL POINT OF SIGNIFICANCE WAS MARKOVIC'S COMMENT THAT THE USG ATTITUDE TOWARD ANTI-YUGOSLAV "TERRORISTS" IN THE UNITED STATES HAS SUBSTANTIALLY IMPROVED, AND THAT THIS CHANGE HAS BEEN NOTED AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS IN THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT. EAGLEBURGER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS, SOCIAL RECEPTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BELGRA05695
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780320-1377
Format: TEL
From: BELGRADE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780899/aaaadfmn.tel
Line Count: 102
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e005366a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1841075
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MARKOVIC-HARRIMAN MEETING
TAGS: PFOR, YO, US, (MARKOVIC), (HARRIMAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e005366a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014